

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. – 11. (Canceled)

12. (Withdrawn) The method of placing an embolic protection device in a vessel, comprising:

providing an elongate shaft having a proximal end and a distal end, an embolic protection filter disposed on the shaft and a magnetically permeable section disposed on the shaft;

providing a captivation tool including a magnetic section;

advancing the elongate shaft to a target site in the vessel; and

magnetically coupling the magnetically permeable section to the magnetic section.

13. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising advancing the shaft and the filter to the target site simultaneously.

14. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising providing a plurality of spaced apart magnetically permeable sections disposed proximate the proximal end of the shaft.

15. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 14, further comprising disposing a plurality of non-magnetically permeable spacers between the magnetically permeable sections.

16. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 14, further comprising providing the captivation tool with a plurality of spaced apart magnetic sections magnetically couplable to the magnetically permeable sections.

17. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising providing the captivation tool with a magnetic section magnetically couplable to the magnetically permeable section.

18. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising disposing a sheath between the magnetically permeable section and the magnetic section.

19. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising disposing a delivery sheath at least in part about the shaft.

20. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the shaft comprises a wire.

21. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 20, wherein the shaft comprises a NiTi alloy.

22. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, wherein the filter includes a frame including a nickel titanium alloy.

23. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising fixing the filter to the elongate shaft.

24. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 12, further comprising the step of advancing a therapeutic catheter along the elongate shaft to the target site.

25. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 24, further comprising withdrawing the therapeutic catheter from the elongate shaft and advancing a retrieval sheath over the shaft to retrieve the filter.

26. (Withdrawn) A method in accordance with claim 25, further comprising withdrawing the elongate shaft and retrieval sheath from the vessel.

27. (Currently Amended) A captivation tool for use with ~~[[an]]~~ a guidewire elongated shaft comprising:

a housing member having ~~[[a]]~~ a first wall and a second wall and a bottom surface therebetween defining a longitudinal slot;

a ~~plurality of linear array~~ comprising a plurality of magnetic sections disposed along and parallel to the slot~~[[,]]~~;

an elongated shaft within the slot, said elongated shaft having disposed along at least a portion thereof a plurality of magnetic regions whereby at least one of the plurality of magnetic sections is attractively magnetically coupled with at least one magnetic region of the ~~guidewire elongated shaft~~ when said guidewire elongated shaft is disposed within the longitudinal slot ~~to increase~~ thereby increasing the force necessary to translate the elongated shaft within the longitudinal slot when the elongate shaft is further contained within a surrounding catheter, said catheter being generally in contact with at least the bottom surface of the longitudinal slot of the captivation tool;

wherein the elongated shaft further comprises an embolic protection device, the translational displacement of said embolic protection device being fixed at one of several displacements relative to the captivation tool by magnetic coupling between at least one magnetic section and one magnetic region.

28. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 27, wherein the plurality of magnetic sections are disposed along the bottom surface of the longitudinal slot.

29. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 27, wherein the plurality of magnetic sections are disposed along the first wall of the longitudinal slot.

30. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 27, wherein the plurality of magnetic sections are disposed along the bottom surface and the first wall of the longitudinal slot.

31. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 27 wherein the catheter may be moved generally along the magnetically coupled guidewire elongated shaft without dislodging the guidewire elongated shaft from the captivation tool.

32. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 27, wherein the plurality of magnetic sections of the captivation tool are magnetically coupled to a plurality of magnetic regions disposed along the guidewire elongated shaft.

33. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 32 in which all of the magnetic couplings between the plurality of regions of the guidewire elongated shaft and the plurality of magnetic sections of the captivation tool are attractive.

34. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 32, wherein the plurality of magnetic sections are magnetically coupled to a plurality of regions along the guidewire elongated shaft which alternate with a plurality of regions of disposed along the guidewire elongated shaft which are not magnetically coupled to the plurality of magnetic sections.

35. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 34, wherein the size and spacing of the alternating coupled and not coupled regions disposed along the guidewire elongated shaft correspond to the spacing of the plurality of magnetic sections of the captivation tool.

36. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 34, whereby the magnetic coupling between the plurality of magnetic sections and the plurality of magnetic regions along the guidewire elongated shaft may be established at a plurality of translational displacements of the guidewire elongated shaft with respect to the captivation tool.

37. (Currently Amended) The captivation tool of claim 32, whereby the magnetic coupling between the plurality of magnetic sections and [[the]] at least one magnetic region of the guidewire elongated shaft may be established at a plurality of translational displacements of the guidewire elongated shaft with respect to the captivation tool.

38. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 27 further comprising a catheter guide.

39. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 38, wherein the catheter guide has a guide opening disposed therethrough for receipt of a catheter.

40. (Canceled)

41. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 27, wherein the surrounding catheter further comprises a retrieval sheath.

42. (Previously Presented) The captivation tool of claim 27, wherein the surrounding catheter further comprises a stent delivery catheter.